

Message Text

PAGE 01 STATE 038997
ORIGIN NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 OC-06 CCO-00 SS-15 SP-02
L-03 DODE-00 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 HA-05 SY-05
NSCE-00 MCT-01 PA-01 USIE-00 INRE-00 SSO-00 PM-05
/076 R

DRAFTED BY NEA/ARN:DEREUTHER:DWL
APPROVED BY NEA/ARN:WNHOWELL, JR.
-----017585 142324Z /64

O R 142202Z FEB 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO USINT BAGHDAD IMMEDIATE
INFO AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY LONDON

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 038997

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PEPR, IZ

SUBJECT: IRAQI CHIEFS OF MISSION CONSULTATIONS

REF: A) BAGHDAD 120; B) BAGHDAD 289

1. DURING ROUTINE CALL AT IRAQINT FEBRUARY 13 IRAQINT
CHIEF SAID THAT HE WAS DEPARTING THAT EVENING FOR CHIEFS
OF MISSION CONSULTATIONS IN BAGHDAD. AMBASSADORS FROM
IRAQI MISSIONS IN EASTERN AND WESTERN EUROPE AND NORTH
AMERICA WOULD ATTEND THESE CONSULTATIONS. KHATIB SAID THAT
HE WOULD BE IN BAGHDAD FOR APPROXIMATELY TWO WEEKS.

2. IN A MORE INQUISITIVE MOOD THAN NORMAL, KHATIB ASKED
ABOUT THE FOLLOWING SUBJECTS:

--THE STATUS OF THE 35 IRAQI ASSYRIANS' POLITICAL ASYLUM
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CLAIM;

--THE SADAT VISIT TO WASHINGTON. HE WAS IMPRESSED WITH THE

PRESS COVERAGE OF SADAT. WHILE AVOIDING POLICY ISSUES, HE
AGREED THAT SADAT'S PRESS AND TELEVISION EXPOSURE HAD MADE
A POSITIVE IMPRESSION UPON AMERICAN PUBLIC OPINION.

--THE POSSIBILITY OF TERRORISTS ASSASSINATING SADAT
BECAUSE OF THE SUCCESS OF THE WASHINGTON VISIT. WE TOOK

THIS OPPORTUNITY TO FORCEFULLY STRESS THAT AN ASSASSINATION, OR ANY ACT OF INTERNATIONAL TERRORISM, WOULD BE HIGHLY COUNTERPRODUCTIVE TO THE PATRONS OF THE TERRORISTS.

--CONDITIONS FOR USINT. WE REMINDED HIM OF THE STATUS OF THE LEASED TELETYPE CIRCUIT.

3. COMMENT: KHATIB HAS BEEN A QUIET OBSERVOR. THIS WILL BE HIS FIRST CONSULTATIONS IN BAGHDAD. WHILE WE DOUBT HE WILL STRAY FROM THE PARTY LINE, OR FORCEFULLY PRESS HIS VIEWS, HE WILL RETURN WITH A UNIQUE PERSPECTIVE FOR HIS MFA COLLEAGUES ON THE AMERICAN SCENE. VANCE

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<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

Message Attributes

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Disposition Approved on Date:
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